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Washington Wire

CAPITOL HILL — Republicans and Democrats are watching with interest the mail received by Massachusetts conservative Rep. Hastings Keith, first GOP congressman to back publicly medical care for the aged under social security. So far the mail from his staunchly Republican Cape Cod district is running a surprising 4 to 1 in favor, with many doctors among the ayes. Keith also has won the support of the most influential paper in his district, the rock-ribbed Republican New Bedford Standard-Times.

SENATE CLOAKROOM — Man-in-the-middle on the Republican leadership's opposition to JFK's proposed Cabinet post for urban affairs: New York's GOP Sen. Jacob Javits. Javits co-authored the bill to set up the new agency.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT — The underworld need have no doubts that Attorney General Robert Kennedy wants all-out war. Last year he asked for—and got—\$500,000 for crime fighting. This time he is asking Congress for \$1.1 million.

Intelligence File

PARIS — Latest NATO intelligence estimates credit the Soviet Union with 30 missile-launching submarines, eleven of them nuclear-powered. Each Red sub carries, at most, three 350-mile-range missiles. In comparison, each of the seven U.S. Polaris subs is armed with sixteen missiles with a range of at least 1,200 miles.

EMBASSY ROW — What's the state of Russian food stocks after persistent crop failures and the lagging output of meat and dairy products? One clue: A government ban on the long-standing custom of sending food parcels from Moscow to out-of-town relatives and friends.

BEIRUT, LEBANON — Another Russian ploy to penetrate the capitalist economy has just come to light here. The Soviets have been quietly dickering to buy the faltering Lebanese-French airline, Air Liban. The line is a financial dodo, but has valuable air routes to Africa.

PUNTA DEL ESTE — Here is one thing that may have influenced Brazil's standoff approach to sanctions for Castro. In a private message to Brazilian President João Goulart, Nikita Khrushchev promised, in return for Brazil's resisting

sanctions against Cuba, to (1) guarantee no Cuban military ties with Russia or the Warsaw pact; (2) give Brazil economic and technical aid, and (3) use "all methods deemed necessary" if the Organization of American States threatened a naval blockade of Castro's island.

Inside Story

LOS ANGELES — The world may soon be seeing Frank Sinatra in a new guise. The high-living king of the "Rat Pack" will give way to Sinatra, the sober, sedate, and soon-to-be-married executive type. He already has changed tailors and press agents. In the works: A possible world tour, with Sinatra doing benefits for such things as Prince Philip's favorite philanthropy, the National Playing Fields Association.

NEW YORK CITY — The U.S. may soon get its first look at Russian tourists en masse. The details are still being worked out, but Moscow plans to send 450 to 500 Russians here for a tour of Boston, New York, and Washington. (Previous tourist groups from Russia have numbered only about twenty.)

NEW DELHI — With one exception, Jacqueline Kennedy wants no special catering arrangements when she visits India in March. The exception? For lunch, the First Lady prefers toasted cheese sandwiches, her favorite luncheon dish since childhood.

Ahead of the News

PENTAGON — Who will be the No. 1 aide to CIA chief John McCone? Scuttlebutt among the top brass here is that Navy research chief Vice Adm. John T. Hayward, recently named commander of the new atomic task force to be built around the carrier Enterprise, is McCone's choice for the job. Despite the fact that Hayward was willing to give up one of his three stars to take the seagoing post, insiders say he's ready to accept the CIA job.

CAPITOL HILL — What's ahead for Tito on the U.S. foreign-aid schedule? Ambassador George Kennan has recommended to the Congress that aid to Belgrade (\$2 billion since 1950) be phased out in the next two to three years, and replaced